

The Daily Courant.

Wednesday, July 28 1718

London, July 28.

A further Continuation of the Remarks on the Paris Mercure.

I come at last to consider what the French Author advances concerning the People of Holland. He tells us, 'That the States are not able, as formerly, to settle the necessary Funds as soon as the Service and Sums are propos'd: But are frequently assembled several Months to find out those Funds, and at last separate without entirely providing for them: That they can no longer find annual Funds for continuing the War: That their Commerce being maim'd in all its Parts, and especially they having none at present with the Spaniards, Money is very scarce among them: That for some Years divers Provinces have caus'd their Deputies to declare to the States-General, that they cannot contribute to the Charge of the War; that they have in Part kept their Word; and that their Remonstrances having been publish'd in Holland, have thereby come to be known to all Europe. That the Poverty of several Provinces of Holland cannot be hid. And upon the whole he concludes thus, 'Before the present War, the Dutch were in perfect Union with France, and Philip V. was pleas'd to forget they were rebellious Subjects. In a word, all that the 2 Crowns had promis'd them, ought to have satisfied them; they should enjoy uninterrupted Tranquillity, which would have made their Trade flourish, and would have enabled them to recover what the preceding Wars had cost them. But now the Condition of Holland, is this, The Country is ruin'd, and almost destitute of Men and Money. To conclude, Peace cannot come too soon for their Relief, and when they shall have the Happiness to enjoy it, they will find it a Work of several Ages to recover their Losses, to make their Commerce flourish anew, and to bring back Money into their Provinces, which are quite drain'd of it.

The Air of Assurance with which all this is said, may be apt to persuade some People at first Sight, that our Author is perfectly well inform'd of what he relates: But this will not pass with those who are acquainted with his modest and ingenuous Manner of writing; and upon a close Examination 'twill plainly appear, that he represents in false Colours the principal Facts he mentions, and forms suitable Conclusions upon them. For Instance, some Provinces, or some Cities of the Republick, have frequently excepted against one or other Sort of Tax; some may probably be in Arrear of the Quota they should furnish; and perhaps some Funds have prov'd deficient: But, those Provinces or Cities that have at some Times complain'd, have always been persuaded, either to acquiesce with the sort of Tax propos'd, or another sort has been substituted in the Room of it; and no Province has hitherto declar'd it self unable to furnish its Contingent, to any such purpose as our Author insinuates, namely to refuse and lately to pay any Part of it, or to withhold any Part of it under any other Notion than that of Arriers, which they must and do satisfy as fast as they are able. For the Case is this, the several Proportions to be furnish'd by each Province to the general yearly Charge of the Republick have been so long establish'd, that there never is or can be any Contest about the Sum of any Tax charg'd on any Province, tho' there may about the Tax it self, that is to say, the Means of levying that Sum: Nor can any Province refuse to pay its due Part; for that would be a fundamental Breach of the Union. So that as long as the Credit of the Government is sound at Heart, that is to say as long as the Union of the seven Provinces subsists, and the People are satisfy'd there is no Abuse in the Administration of the publick Treasure, Provision is and will constantly be made for every Year's Service by Loans at

moderate Interest, till the Taxes are brought in: For tho' Diminution of Commerce may have occasion'd some scarcity of Money, Zealand has made very considerable Advantage by purchasing this War, and under an equitable and frugal Administration Holland cannot be drain'd of its vast Wealth in a long Time; and these two Provinces furnish so great a Part of the whole Charge of the Commonwealth, (viz. more than two thirds, which is ever well paid,) that if the Grand Alliance keeps firm, and they continue satisfy'd with the Management of the War, they are able even without the other five Provinces to fit out the Game, on the Part of the States-General, with exhausted France. The Loan furnish'd last Summer by the Province of Holland to the States of the Circle of Swabia, after the Marshal de Vintars had ravag'd their Country, at the easie Interest of 5 per Cent. is no great Proof of their being in extreme Want of Money: And the sudden Resolution of the Council of State to augment their Naval Force with several Ships of War this Spring, when the Expedition against Scotland was in Agitation; nor to speak of other Augmentations above their ordinary Estimate, (which they had establish'd in the Winter and communicated to the Provinces) for the Land-Service this Campaign; is no small Argument that their High mightinesses, (who think themselves sure of the Hearts and consequently of the Purse of their Subjects, while they can give them solid Reasons that they ask them only to make necessary Efforts,) do not yet reckon their Wealth at so low an Ebb. As for the Remonstrances our Author speaks of, few are uninform'd, that 'tis the Custom in Holland when any thing of Consequence is propos'd by the Council of State, to cause the Proposition to be printed by their own Printer, and to transmit it to the Deputies of the States and Towns of every Province for their Approbation: [By the Way, it may not be amiss to observe here, that the Council of State cause extracts of all their own Resolutions, and of all the Letters of peculiar Importance from their Ministers abroad, and from the Generals of their Troops, to be printed and sent to the said Deputies; who are thereby rightly inform'd of the true State of publick Affairs; which is the distinguishing Mark of a free Government, as 'tis the Mark of a bad Administration to keep Men who have any Part in the Councils of a Nation as ignorant of those Affairs as is possible:] To these Propositions, those Deputies return Answers; which they frequently cause to be printed also, particularly when the Matter relates to any Dispute between one Province or Town and another, which they judge necessary to have fairly discuss'd and fully understood. These Pieces are handed among the Magistracy, and the best qualific'd People; but are never made so common as our Author pretends: Nor will he ever be able to persuade any Man, on his own blasted Credit, that any Representations to the Effect he speaks of have been printed, much less that all Europe have seen them. But our Author's Way is, to argue disingenuously and fallaciously from a known Truth to an invented Falshood; thus because 'tis agreed, that Decay of Commerce does in Time cause scarcity of Money and visible Poverty in a Country, therefore he affirms roundly that the Country of the Dutch is already ruin'd and destitute of Men and Money, though no Person that goes into Holland sees any Face of Poverty yet (whatever there may be in Time,) nor is the Money to the publick Service apparently ill supplied: So also, because Representations of divers kinds relating to the publick Administration, are printed in Holland for the sole use of the Persons chiefly employ'd or interested in that Government, therefore Remonstrances on whatever Subject this Author dreams of are printed there and expos'd to the View of all Europe. At the Bottom, I take our Author to mistake this Matter totally: He has heard that the Provinces

Provinces and Towns of Holland do sometimes by their Deputies debate the Methods of raising the publick Taxes; that the Provinces of Holland and Zealand have some Difference about the Privateers of the latter interrupting the Trade of the former to France; and that there have been other like Contentions, and Remonstrances upon them: Now because in France should any Province or Town offer once to make any kind of Representations against any sort of Imposition, tho' upon the justest Reasons, 'tis call'd Rebellion, and the King's Ministers always answer *the King will be Obedy'd*, and Dagons or other arm'd Force are sent to see his Will and Pleasure executed; our Authorancies that because in Holland Deputies and Magistrates petition or remonstrate on Affairs of any kind propos'd to them by the States, and because there are Disputes between this and that Province or Town, therefore all are going together by the Ears, the People will give no Money, the Government is falling to Pieces, the Country ruin'd, and God knows what: When alas the poor Man is only in a wrong Situation to judge of these things; for in a free Government, Men employ'd in it do in their proper Stations, as things rise, argue, debate, remonstrate the best they can for the Interest or Ease of the several Provinces or Towns they are concern'd for; and yet are good Friends at the Bottom, contend only for the equal Distribution of the publick Burthens, from hearing all Parties determine on the best Methods for the Relief of each other and the Benefit of the whole, and all fall in heartily at last with the just Designs and contribute unanimously to the necessary Occasions of the State. This Autor would do something, could he tell us, that one or more Province of the united Netherlands have represented to the States-general, that the Reasons for which this War was begun were insufficient, that the Ends for which 'tis pursu'd are unjust, and that 'tis not at all necessary for the Safety of the State to pursue it any further: But while their High Mightinesses can with Truth affirm to their Subjects, that they have at all Times sought only to preserve the Peace and Ballance of Europe, that they have never been the first Aggressors in any War against their Neighbours, that they have never misemploy'd the Blood or Treasure of their Subjects, and that on the Issue of this War depends the very Being of their State, it cannot be doubted that their People being thoroughly convinc'd they are under as great a Necessity of defending their Liberties against the French now as they were of gaining them from the Spaniards formerly, will go on in the very same honest Cause to the very same hard Extremities, as long as the Allies, particularly those who have so much of the Management of the War in their Hands, will go along with them *aquo jure*, for their mutual Interest. I admire at a Frenchman's Immodesty to venture such an Expression, as that the Poverty of the several Provinces of Holland cannot be hid; not because the thing is false in it self, but because were it true it ill becomes Men to talk of the visible Poverty of other Countries, when their own shews so much greater Marks of Misery and Wretchedness, not only in the Desolation of their solitary Towns, but even in the ragged Clothing and famish'd Looks of the People, than any other Part of Christendom: I appeal to any Man who has seen France, even before this exhausting War, and is capable of making any Observation, whether this be not true. And as for the Scarcity of Money in Holland, I am of Opinion our Author entertains a very wrong Notion; For, there seem to be no inconsiderable Veins of Wealth spread over the Country, Part by Accidents owing to the very War: 'Tis certain the Zealanders have got great Riches by privateering; the Neighbourhood of the numerous Army of the Allies, which is well paid, occasions the Expence of very great Sums of Money in the Dutch Provinces for subsisting that Army and supplying the Service with divers things; the low Customs in and out render the Trade the Dutch have by Sea very profitable; and their Fishery is not only an inexhaustible Mine of Treasure, but is a sure Support of great Part of the lower Rank of their People, and contributes much to keep the Multitude easy: 'Twould be too

great an Omission, if to these Sources of Wealth I should not add the known Frugality of the People in their Way of Living. So that there must be more Money in Holland than our Author is aware of: And the People are not only able to bear great Taxes, but do it cheerfully for plain Reasons given by Sir William Temple in his Observations on the united Provinces of the Netherlands Page 130, viz. 'That the Way to Office and Authority lies through such Qualities as acquire the general Esteem of the People. That no Man is exempted from the Danger and Current of the Laws. That Soldiers are confin'd to the Frontiers. That no great Riches are seen to enter by publick Payments into private Purse; either to raise Families, or to feed the prodigal Expenses of vain extravagant and luxurious Men. That all publick Monies are apply'd to the Safety, Greatness, or Honour of the State: And that the Magistrates themselves bear an equal share in all the Burthens they impose. 'Tis in the Consciousness of this, that the Council of State do in the Preamble to their Petition for the Funds of this Year's Service, 'exhort the Provinces to run through the Fire of the Expences of this War; and following the glorious Steps of their Ancestors, (who for their Liberty, Safety, and Privileges, gave all that they had,) to prosecute this War undertaken for Considerations no less dear and valuable; till such a Peace is obtain'd, as France who never want *Will*, may never have Power to disturb. By this our Author may perceive the States are not in so much Hast for Peace as he imagines: And this will lead me to inquire in my next, or in Friday's Courant, *Upon what Terms the Allies can ever safely Consent to a Peace with France.*

By her Majesty's Company of Comedians.

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane, to Morrow being Thursday, the 29th of July, will be presented a Play call'd, *The Tempest*; or, *The Enchanted Island*. This Play is Sold by J. Knapton at the Crown in St. Paul's Church-yard, and B. Lintott next Nando's Coffee-House, Temple-Bar.

A New Milch Ass and Foal to be Sold. Enquire at John's Coffee-house in Swithings-Alley in Cornhill.

A very good Coffee-house to be Let near the Exchange. Enquire at the Printer's of this Paper.

FOR SALE BY THE CANDLE.

This Day the 28th Instant, will be expos'd to Sale at Lloyd's Coffee-house in Lombard-street, at 4 a Clock in the Afternoon precisely, 38 whole Chests of new Florence Wine, an entire Parcel, lately imported. To be seen till the Time of Sale, in a Cellar in Love-Lane near Billingsgate, above the Rose Ale-house. Sold by Francis Camfield, Sworn-Broker.

FOR SALE BY THE CANDLE.

To Morrow the 29th Instant, at Lloyd's Coffee-house in Lombard-street, 24 Pipes of new Red Oporto Wine, and 18 Pipes of new White Oporto Wine, just Landed, neat and entire Parcels. To be seen from this Day till the Hour of Sale in a Warehouse N^o 73. on Fresh-Wharf, and in a Cellar N^o 12. in the Gateway of the said Wharf, where Catalogues may be had and at the Place of Sale. Sold by Thomas Tomkins, Broker.

For SALE by the CANDLE.

To Morrow the 29th Instant, at Lloyd's Coffee-house in Lombard-street, beginning at 5 in the Afternoon precisely, 32 Hhds and 2 Pipes of Red Wine fit for Draught, 3 Hhds of White Wine ditto, 2 Hhds of New Viana, 1 White 1 Red, 5 Hhds of New French White Wine, 3 Tuns of New Vingree Wine. To be seen in a Vault ever-against the Feathers in Boroloph-Lane, to the Hour of Sale, from 7 to 12, and from 2 till 6. Catalogues may be had at Lloyd's Coffee-house, and at the Place aforesaid. Sold by John Styles, Sworn-Broker.

Whereas 24 Tun of French Wine was advertis'd to be expos'd to Sale at Lloyd's Coffee-house on Tuesday the 20th Instant, and was then adjourn'd till further Notice, the said Wines will be put up to Sale at the said Place on Wednesday the 4th of August next, free of all Duties, at 15 l. per Hoghead, at 5 of the Clock in the Afternoon. They are to be seen at Mr. Peter Hill's in Falmouth. Sold by Francis Camfield, Sworn-Broker.

These are to give Notice to all Merchants and others, that by the 1st of September next will be ready for the Press a Book of the Neat Duty (all discounts taken of) and the draw-back of all Merchandise specified in the Book of Rates, both Inwards and Outwards, carefully and exactly cast up, so that at one View in one Line you may see what Custom any Comodity Pays, and the draw-back if Exported. Drugs, Wine, Tobacco and East India Goods, tho' very difficult, yet are here Plain and True. All done in Decimals to the 10000 Part of a Farthing, and in Vulgar to 1 eighth of a Penny. To which will be added very useful Directions, and also a small Treatise of Decimal Arithmetick. Subscriptions is taken by the Author Tho. Langham, Broker, to Pay 10 s. on delivery, being well bound in Calves Leather. There will be but very few more Printed than what is Subscrib'd for, and to be had no where else but by the Author. I am to be spoken with every Day at Bear-Key Coffee-house in Thames-street near the Custom-house, London, from 9 to 12 a Clock, and at the Exchange on the Grocers-Walk.

Just Publish'd,

Some Familiar Letters between Mr. Locke and several of his Friends. Printed for A. and J. Churchill at the Black Swan in Pater-Noster-Row. Price 5 s.